

Deferring

Both new and renewal "Bright Flight" applicants may qualify for student deferments. These deferments allow students to defer eligibility for up to 27 continuous months. Examples of how to qualify for student deferments include participation in a high school student exchange program, service in a nonprofit organization, service on active duty in the armed forces, and medical reasons.



The "Bright Flight" scholarship may be transferred from one approved Missouri postsecondary institution to another.

To transfer the scholarship, students must contact the MDHE Information Center at (800) 473-6757, option 1, (573) 751-3940, or icweb@mocbhe.gov.





Missouri Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program



The "Bright Flight" scholarship may be renewed annually until students have obtained a baccalaureate degree or completed a total of 10 semesters (excluding summer terms), whichever occurs first.

To be eligible as a renewal student, a student must:

- continually attend college full time (excluding summer terms);
- continually receive the scholarship award at an approved Missouri postsecondary institution; and
- maintain satisfactory academic progress according to standards determined by the institution.

Postsecondary institutions will submit student records for eligible renewal students to MDHE.



For more information contact the MDHE Information Center

3515 Amazonas Drive Jefferson City, MO 65109 (800) 473-6757, option 1 (573) 751-3940 www.dhe.mo.gov icweb@mocbhe.gov



The Missouri Higher
Education Academic
Scholarship Program,
also known as "Bright
Flight," is a state meritbased financial assistance
program that provides
annual scholarship awards
of \$2,000 to encourage
top-ranking high school
seniors to attend approved
Missouri postsecondary
institutions.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a "Bright Flight" scholarship, a student must:

- be a Missouri resident and a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen;
- be a 2004 high school senior who enrolls as a first-time, full-time student at an approved Missouri postsecondary institution;
- have a composite score on the American College Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) in the top 3 percent of scores for all Missouri students taking those tests; and
- not be pursuing a degree or certificate in theology or divinity.

For the 2004-05 academic year, a student must have achieved one of the following test scores to qualify in the top 3 percent:

- ACT composite score of 30 or above, OR
- SAT verbal score of 770 or above and math score of 780 or above.

Students must achieve the specified scores in both verbal and math on the SAT to qualify in the top 3 percent. If high school seniors have taken the tests as juniors or sophomores, those scores are acceptable to determine the students' eligibility as long as those scores are qualifying scores when the students become seniors. Only composite test scores achieved on national test dates or on special test dates approved by the testing companies are acceptable to determine eligibility. Test scores from residual tests are not acceptable to determine "Bright Flight" eligibility.

High school seniors who are homeschooled or who have obtained a certificate of high school equivalence by passing the General Educational Development (GED) examination may be considered for the scholarship program.

If eligible students do not receive the scholarship award during the academic year immediately following their senior year of high school (or when they obtain a certificate of high school equivalence), they will no longer be eligible to receive the award in subsequent years.

Applying

To apply for the "Bright Flight" scholarship, a student must take the ACT or SAT assessment and receive the required test score on or before the **June 12**, **2004** test date. There is no application to submit.

The Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) will obtain each student's eligibility information from either the ACT or SAT assessment records, whichever the student has taken, and will notify students, high schools, and postsecondary institutions of scholarship awards.

When students enroll for the fall semester, the postsecondary institutions will notify MDHE of the students' eligibility and will request payment of the scholarship awards. MDHE will deliver half (\$1,000) of each student's scholarship award to the institution for the fall semester. The other half (\$1,000) will be delivered to the institution once enrollment eligibility is verified for the spring semester.